

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on line 5 of page 1 with the following amended paragraph:

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This application claims the benefit of U.S. provisional application 60/130,238, filed April 20, 1999. This application is also related to U.S. provisional application 60/075,715 filed February 24, 1998; copending U.S. patent application number 09/513,486, filed February 25, 2000; 2000, entitled "~~Protein Separation Via Multidimensional Electrophoresis,~~" and having attorney docket number ~~020444-000200US~~; copending U.S. patent application number 09/513,395, filed February 25, 2000; 2000, entitled "~~Methods for Protein Sequencing,~~" and having attorney docket number ~~020444-000300US~~; copending U.S. application number 09/513,907, filed February, 25, 2000; 2000, entitled "~~Polypeptide Fingerprinting Methods and Bioinformatics Database System,~~" and having attorney docket number ~~020444-000100US~~; copending U.S. patent application number _____, filed number 09/551,937, filed April 19, 2000; 2000, entitled "Labeling of Protein Samples", and having attorney docket number 020444-000500US; and copending PCT application _____, filed application PCT/US01/10504, filed April 19, 2000 2000, entitled "Polypeptide Fingerprinting Methods, Metabolic Profiling, and Bioinformatics Database," and having attorney docket number ~~020444-000600PC~~. All of these applications are incorporated by reference in their entirety for all purposes.